





## TOWN OF WALPOLE MARCH 20, 2020 CORONAVIRUS PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

<u>Public Health Director</u> *Melissa Ranieri*  Public Health Nurse Patricia Fisher

Please be advised that on March 20, 2020 the Walpole Health Department was notified by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) that two Walpole residents have tested positive for COVID-19. All notifications have been made per DPH guidelines and the Walpole Health Department will continue to work diligently to complete an investigation for each positive case received to limit exposure and the spread of the virus. As of this date the Town of Walpole has a total of two positive COVID-19 cases.

The Health Department would **strongly** urge residents to follow everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces (tables, countertops, door handles, cots, bathrooms) using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- Stay home when you are sick!
- Watch for symptoms including, fever, cough, and shortness of breath. If you feel like you are developing symptoms, call your doctor.

The Health Department will continue to share new information with you, as necessary, about this evolving situation. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns 508-660-7321.

For up-to-date information regarding COVID-19 in the Town of Walpole, please visit <a href="https://www.walpole-ma.gov/covid19">https://www.walpole-ma.gov/covid19</a>.